

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 1-10, 12-14, 16-20, and 22-26 are now pending. By this Amendment, claims 16-20 and 22 are amended, and claims 15 and 21 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

All rejected independent claims have been canceled in order to expedite allowance of the present application.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1-10, 12-14, and 23-26 are allowed, and that claims 16, 18, 19, 20, and 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have rewritten claims 16, 18, 19, 20, and 22 in independent form. Claims 16 and 20 have further been amended to recite a characteristic of the capacitive nodes. No new matter has been added; the specification describes wedge-shaped capacitive nodes at, e.g., p. 3, lines 8-9.

Claim 17, which now depends from claim 19, is also allowable for at least those reasons that claim 19 is allowable, and further in view of the additional features recited therein.

Accordingly, this case is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: November 3, 2003

By:



Jordan N. Bodner  
Registration No. 42,338

1001 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597  
Tel: (202) 824-3000